

On July 21, 2010 the Suisun Resource Conservation District (SRCD) received a letter from the Delta Stewardship Council requesting suggestions for language for the Interim Delta Plan. The SRCD has reviewed the July 14th, 2010 Second Draft Interim Plan and would like to provide the following comments and a list of several Suisun Marsh planning documents that are relevant to the Delta Councils objectives.

1. The majority of the Suisun Marsh is outside the legal boundary of the Delta, but it is included in the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta Reform Act. SRCD believes that there should be a better description in the Interim Plan of the Suisun Marsh’s current wetland and wildlife resource, linkages to Delta water quality (salinity), and aquatic and terrestrial ecological processes of the Delta Region.
2. The Suisun Marsh is comprised of significant areas of uplands, brackish wetlands, bays and sloughs and represents a unique environmental, cultural and recreational resource. These values are protected under the following Legislation, Policies and Regulations, please consider them during the development of the Delta Plan:
 - The Suisun Marsh Preservation Act of 1977
 - The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission – Suisun Marsh Protection Plan
 - The Solano County Policies and Regulations Governing the Suisun Marsh
 - The Suisun Resource Conservation District’s Suisun Marsh Management Program, including Suisun Marsh levee specifications.
 - The Draft Suisun Marsh Habitat Management, Preservation, and Restoration Plan EIR/EIS. The Administrative Draft of this Plan is near completion and a public draft is anticipated in the fall of 2010 and completion in the spring of 2011.
 - The Central Valley Joint Venture 2006 Implementation Plan – Suisun Marsh Basin
3. Early actions that SRCD believes should be included in the Interim Plan.
 - Support the timely completion of the Suisun Marsh Habitat Management, Preservation, and Restoration Plan EIR/EIS.
 - The support of the tidal restoration of the following areas in the Suisun Marsh: DWR’s Mien’s Landing parcel, the DFG Hill Slough east and west, and the Solano Land Trust’s - Rush Ranch Brood Pond.
 - Support the continued operation, enhancement and restoration of diked managed wetland in the Suisun Marsh

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this brief summary of SRCD’s initial comments on the second draft of the Interim Delta Plan. SRCD looks forward to continuing to work with the Council and staff to develop the Final Delta Plan. If there are any questions, please contact me at (707) 425-9302 or schappell@suisunrcd.org.

Sincerely,

Steven Chappell,
Executive Director, SRCD